

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently Amended) A screw gun ~~in accordance with claim 1 further comprising~~ for driving a fastening means comprising:

a driving unit having a driver and a guide post connected thereto,

a camming means located on said guide post,

a cartridge holder slidably affixed to said guide post and constructed to support a cartridge, and

a cartridge rotatably supported by said cartridge holder, and wherein said camming means is constructed and arranged to cooperate with said cartridge holder to index said cartridge when supplied to said cartridge holder.

3. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 2 wherein said cartridge comprises a housing having a plurality of chambers for releasably holding fastening means and having a means for indexing said cartridge.

4. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 3 wherein said indexing means further aligns said cartridge in said cartridge holder.

5. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 3 wherein said indexing means comprises outwardly extending ribs between each of said chambers.

6. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 5 wherein said chambers include a plurality of fingers for releasably holding said fastening means.

7. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 6 wherein said fingers have a free end and a bound end.

8. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 7 wherein said fingers include a first tapered portion and a second tapered portion constructed and arranged for holding said fastening means.

9. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 8 wherein said fingers further include a groove between said first and second tapered portions.

10. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 9 further including a plurality of fasteners in said cartridge.

11. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 10 wherein said fasteners are hex-head screws.

12. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 3 wherein said fastening means comprises a plurality of fasteners.

13. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 12 wherein said fasteners are hex-head screws.

14. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 13 wherein said driver includes a socket for mating with said hex-head screws.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim [[1]] 2 wherein said cartridge holder comprises a housing having a front cover plate, a rear cover plate, and a pocket in said housing for receiving a cartridge having a plurality of fastening means.

17. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 16 wherein said pocket further includes an inner pocket wall and said inner pocket wall having an indexing means connected thereto and constructed and arranged for communication with said camming means on said guide post.

18. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 17 wherein said indexing means comprises a sleeve having a cam follower.

19. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 17 wherein said indexing means comprises a sleeve having a cam follower, an oscillating plate and a cam plate.

20. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 19 wherein said indexing means further includes a pawl means housed in said oscillating plate and a spring means constructed and arranged for controlling rotation of said oscillating plate.

21. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 17 wherein said indexing means includes a pin means and a pawl means for automatically aligning said cartridge in said screw gun.

22. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 17 wherein said indexing means comprises a sleeve through which said guide post passes, a cam follower which cooperates with said camming means of said guide post, and a pin means and a pawl means which extend through said inner pocket wall into said pocket whereby said indexing means function to automatically align said cartridge and to index said cartridge.

23. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 17 further comprising a cartridge rotatably supported by said cartridge holder.

24. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 23 wherein said cartridge comprises a rotatable housing having a plurality of chambers for releasably holding a fastening means and having an outwardly extending rib between each of said chambers.

25. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 24 wherein said chambers include a plurality of fingers for releasably holding said fastening means.

26. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 25 wherein said fingers include a first tapered

portion and a second tapered portion constructed and arranged for holding a fastener.

27. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 26 further comprising a groove between said first and second tapered portions.

28. (Previously Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim 27 wherein said fastening means comprises a plurality of fasteners.

29. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 28 wherein said fasteners are hex-head screws.

30. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 23 wherein said cartridge includes a plurality of fasteners.

31. (Original) A screw gun in accordance with claim 30 wherein said fasteners are hex-head screws.

Claims 32-67 (Canceled).

68. (Currently Amended) A screw gun in accordance with claim [[1]] 2 further comprising means for automatically sliding said cartridge holder on said guide post.

69. (Previously Presented) A screw gun for driving a fastening means comprising:

a driving unit having a driver and a guide post connected thereto,

a camming means located on said guide post,

a cartridge holder slidably affixed to said guide post,

a cartridge rotatably supported by said cartridge holder, said cartridge containing a plurality of fastening means, wherein said camming means is constructed and arranged to cooperate with said cartridge holder to index said cartridge.

70. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 69 wherein said cartridge comprises a housing having a plurality of chambers for releasably holding said fastening means and having a means for indexing said cartridge.

71. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 70 wherein said indexing means further aligns said cartridge in said cartridge holder.

72. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 70 wherein said indexing means comprises outwardly extending ribs between each of said chambers.

73. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 72 wherein said chambers include a plurality of fingers for releasably holding said fastening means.

74. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 73 wherein said fingers have a free end and a bound end.

75. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 74 wherein said fingers include a first tapered

portion and a second tapered portion constructed and arranged for holding said fastening means.

76. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 75 wherein said fingers further include a groove between said first and second tapered portions.

77. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 69 wherein said fastening means are hex-head screws.

78. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 76 wherein said fastening means are hex-head screws.

79. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 78 wherein said driver includes a socket for mating with said hex-head screws.

80. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 69 wherein said cartridge holder comprises a housing having a front cover plate, a rear cover plate, and a pocket in said housing for receiving said cartridge.

81. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 80 wherein said pocket further includes an inner pocket wall and said inner pocket wall having an indexing means connected thereto and constructed and arranged for communication with said camming means on said guide post.

82. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 81 wherein said indexing means comprises a sleeve having a cam follower.

83. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 81 wherein said indexing means comprises a sleeve having a cam follower, an oscillating plate and a cam plate.

84. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 83 wherein said indexing means further includes a pawl means housed in said oscillating plate and a spring means constructed and arranged for controlling rotation of said oscillating plate.

85. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 81 wherein said indexing means includes a pin means and a pawl means for automatically aligning said cartridge in said screw gun.

86. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 81 wherein said indexing means comprises a sleeve through which said guide post passes, a cam follower which cooperates with said camming means of said guide post, and a pin means and a pawl means which extend through said inner pocket wall into said pocket whereby said indexing means function to automatically align said cartridge and to index said cartridge.

87. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 81 wherein said cartridge comprises a housing



having a plurality of chambers for releasably holding said fastening means and having an outwardly extending rib between each of said chambers.

88. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 87 wherein said chambers include a plurality of fingers for releasably holding said fastening means.

89. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 88 wherein said fingers include a first tapered portion and a second tapered portion constructed and arranged for holding a fastener.

90. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 89 further comprising a groove between said first and second tapered portions.

91. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 90 wherein said fasteners are hex-head screws.

92. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 69 wherein said fastening means are hex-head screws.

93. (Previously Presented) A screw gun in accordance with claim 69 further comprising means for automatically sliding said cartridge holder on said guide post.